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MEETING NOTES

TO: Distribution DATE: December 1, 1994
FROM: Philip Nixon PROJECT: Solar Pond IM/IRA
MEMO #: SP307:120594.04

ATTENDANCE:

Phil Nixon, Parsons ES
Harlen Ainscough, CDPHE
Frazer Lockhart, DOE
Andy Ledford, EG&G
Patrick Kadel, G&M
Tom Broderick, ERM
Alan MacGregor, ERM
Lee Pivonka, G&M
Eileen Jemison, EG&G
Ellen Murray, EG&G

DISTRIBUTION:

Arturo Duran, EPA
Randy Ogg, EG&G
Mark Austin, EG&G
Michelle McKee, EG&G
Steve Keith, EG&G
Steve Cooke, EG&G
Toni Forbes, EG&G
M. Matthews, EG&G
(Admin. Record) (2)
Steve Howard, DOE/SAIC
Peg Witherill, DOE/SAIC
Scott Surovchak, DOE
Jeff Ciocco, DOE
Jesse Roberson, DOE
Bob Siegrist, LATO
Eric Graham, ERM
Alan McGregor, ERM
John Haasbeek, ERM
Marcia Dibiasi, IGO
Tom Peters, PRC

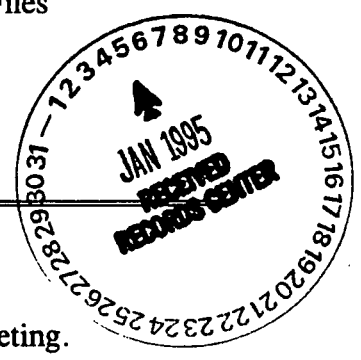
P. Breen
B. Cropper
W. Edmonson
T. Evans
J. Hartfelder
H. Heidkamp
R. Henry
M. Hill
P. Holland
S. Hughes
D. Kennedy
R. Lux
R. McConn
D. Myers
A. Putinsky
R. Stegen
S. Stenseng
R. Schmiermund
R. Wilkinson
T. Kuykendall
Central Files

SUBJECT: Weekly Status Meeting

- 1) Comments on the Previous Meeting Minutes

There were no comments on the meeting minutes from the previous team meeting.

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ADMIN RECORD

A-OU04-000707

2) Summary of RESRAD Meeting

Phil Nixon reported that Parsons ES met with the CDPHE RESRAD modelers to share site specific input parameters with respect to the RESRAD model. In addition, the strategy for configuring and running the model was discussed. It was generally agreed that RESRAD was not an appropriate model for simulating the engineered cover. The model is configured for calculating soils beneath a clean soil cover. The group simulated the results of the engineered cover by changing the precipitation rate to the rate of infiltration through the engineered cover as predicted by the HELP model. The risks from groundwater exposure were very low under this scenario using site specific conditions. When RESRAD was run using site specific conditions and a thick soil cover (to simulate the physical presence of the engineered cover), the risk from the upward exposure pathways was very low. At the end of the meeting, the CDPHE indicated that it was probably not worth pursuing RESRAD modeling any further. This action item should be considered closed. Harlen Ainscough generally concurred with Mr. Nixon's assessment of the meeting.

3) Defense Nuclear Safety Board Policy on Low-Level Waste Disposal.

Harlen Ainscough reported that he had received comments from the CDPHE Radiological Control Division on the IM/IRA-EA Decision Document. He stated that the comments would be resolved within the CDPHE. Mr. Ainscough specified that the Radiological Control Division commented that the DOE needed to consider the Defense Nuclear Safety Board Policy on low-level waste disposal which requests that a performance assessment be performed to demonstrate environmental protectiveness. Acceptance of this policy would pull 10 CFR 61 into the project as an ARAR. Mr. Ainscough continued that two Performance Assessments have been prepared for DOE environmental restoration waste management sites, and DOE HQ has not approved either one. Mr. Ainscough questioned whether the policy is relevant or appropriate for DOE environmental restoration projects. Alan MacGregor stated that one of the performance assessments was performed at Los Alamos National Laboratory for a new disposal facility that would receive environmental restoration project wastes. The project however was not a Environmental Restoration project. Harlen Ainscough questioned if DOE-RFO had received guidance from DOE-HQ on this new policy. Mr. Ainscough also questioned if the DOE considers this regulation to be relevant or appropriate. Subsequent to the meeting, Frazer Lockhart stated that DOE-RFO had not received guidance from DOE-HQ on this topic. Mr. Lockhart stated that he would not ask DOE-HQ for a position on the topic because DOE-RFO does not consider that this policy is relevant or appropriate to the OU4 IM/IRA. The policy is intended for new disposal facilities being proposed at clean sites. The OU4 IM/IRA is the closure of an existing contaminated facility in place, which is different from the creation of a new disposal facility.

4) Public Relations Strategies

Eileen Jemison reported that a fact sheet was being prepared. A users guide will also be needed specifying where in the IM/IRA-EA Decision Document key topics are discussed. This users guide may also be the mechanism by which the IM/IRA-EA Decision Document is announced to the public.

Ms. Jemison indicated that a videotape is recommended by the EG&G Community Relations department. It is recommended that the video tape be created analogous to a "60 Minutes"-type production where the problem is defined and then there are interviews with the various stakeholders relaying their positions on the pros and cons. Potential groups for interviews include:

- 1) DOE
- 2) CDPHE
- 3) EPA
- 4) Citizens Advisory Board/Technical Review Group (CAB/TRG)

It was discussed whether it was appropriate to include the CAB/TRG in the video tape, since this is a diverse group with differing opinions. Harlen Ainscough recommended that the chairperson of the CAB be asked to state the formal position of the CAB. It was agreed that this video tape should strike a balance of the pros and cons of the proposed alternative so that it is not perceived as a "sales job" by the DOE for the proposed alternative.

There is a quarterly meeting on January 25, 1995 which will be almost entirely dedicated to an OU4 IM/IRA workshop. It is planned that the video tape will be ready for use to "kick off" the workshop. There will also be exhibits (3) showing the past, present and proposed future condition of the OU4 Solar Ponds. The EG&G Community Relations department also recommends that a 3-dimensional tabletop model be constructed.

Ms. Jemison stated that EG&G would continue to prepare articles for the Environmental Management Update publication. In addition articles would be provided in the Site paper for the benefit of the employees.

Ellen Murray stated that EG&G has not used cable T.V. programming very often, but that it would be possible. The EG&G Community Relations Department is considering asking DOE Senior Management to present information on a local channel talk show. Radio talk shows are also being considered.

With respect to newspaper articles, Ms. Murray recommended that articles be published in technical trade journals prior to being submitted to the general newspapers. The technical journal articles will provide a pre-established framework for local articles.

Frazer Lockhart stated that it is important not to focus too much on technical details such as the inclusion of sludge and/or pondcrete which is an issue between the DOE and the regulatory agencies. Rather, the larger issue of leaving contaminated materials on site needs to be addressed for the public's benefit. Harlen Ainscough stated that it is important to note that the DOE is ready to take a positive action to close the Solar Evaporation Ponds (SEPs) and begin to remediate areas that were impacted by them, and that this is the cheapest action which provides the highest level of protection to human health and the environment. Mr. Lockhart stated that the DOE wants the public to be cognizant of the issues so that the public opinion can be stated. Through public involvement, the DOE, EPA, and CDPHE can make informed decisions.

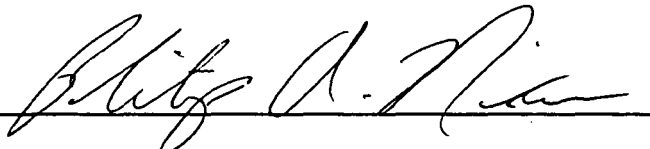
Frazer Lockhart stated that it is desirable to provide information to technical congressional groups and city managers (including their technical representatives) prior to holding public work shops and meetings. Therefore, these government groups are aware of the plan and can provide informed answers to questions that they might receive from their constituents.

It was discussed that site tours for the general public would be a good way to "de-mystify" the SEPs and help install a feeling of openness between DOE and the public.

5) Outstanding Action Items

Harlen Ainscough indicated that CDPHE senior management did not feel that the CDPHE needed to be involved in the proposed IM/IRA design technical review committee. The CDPHE has adequate staff to review the IM/IRA-EA Decision Document and the IM/IRA design. Andy Ledford indicated that CDPHE should reconsider the DOE's offer for the following reasons:

- 1) The review would be impartial since the CDPHE would help select the 3rd party reviewer.
- 2) CDPHE would get help with their review.
- 3) There would not exist the problems associated with "dueling expert opinions" since the group would be expected to arrive at a consensus position.



Philip A. Nixon

Operable Unit 4
Public Involvement Strategy *DRAFT*

A. Overview

The closure of the Solar Evaporation Ponds, Operable Unit 4 (OU4) constitutes complex technical, regulatory and policy issues. The remediation of OU4 is governed by the Interagency Agreement (IAG) which brings requirements of both the Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation Liability Act (CERCLA) to bear on all decisions and actions. The proposed closure plan has been developed during the past year by Rocky Flats Field Office Department of Energy (DOE) and EG&G representatives in cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) technical staffs. The goal has been to find a solution that is "protective, legal, permanent, and affordable."

Rocky Flats proposes to build a RCRA cap over the solar ponds in order to close them. The cap will be constructed in layers of all natural materials. Previously removed sludges and pondcrete materials, as well as the contaminated pond liners and contiguous surface soils are to be buried. The proposed plan calls for the cap to be constructed during Phase I of the project. Phase II will be continued investigation and a determination of what to do with residual soil and groundwater contamination after the cap is in place. Because of the magnitude of this project, aggressive public information and involvement activities are strongly suggested.

B. Public Involvement

RCRA, CERCLA, IAG, DOE Orders and Community Relations Plan provide the framework for documenting and disclosing the alternative closure plans considered and opportunities for public involvement in the decision making process. Rocky Flats has taken a proactive approach to assure that opportunities for information sharing and public involvement are available to the local communities and interested parties prior to and during the required public comment period for the IM/IRA Decision Document for OU4. This public involvement program is being implemented to meet the following objectives:

- ° Meet Environmental Protection Agency, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Department of Energy, RFFO, and EG&G commitments for public involvement and information
- ° Provide information to the public about the proposed Operable Unit 4 closure process and supporting documentation
- ° Invite public participation in the decision-making process

The following activities/vehicles are being implemented to provide immediate and ongoing opportunities for public information and involvement:

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Informational Tools

Fact Sheets - EG&G Community Relations will develop a new fact sheet discussing the proposed closure of Operable Unit 4 that will describe the problem, proposed closure, and related safety and risk assessment issues.

Users Guide - EG&G Community Relations will prepare a Users Guide that will be a road map to the decision document. It will help point interested stakeholders to pertinent portions of the document. The guide will also be used as an announcement of document availability.

Video - A video will be prepared for the January workshop. The video will include interviews and updated information.

Environmental Management Update - Articles regarding OU4 clean-up have been ongoing, specifically during the November/December 1994 issue an article will be included that will discuss the closure, document availability, and locations. The issue will be mailed in January 1995. The Environmental Management Update is distributed to approximately 2000 individuals and organizations on the plant mailing list and is also made available at other site related meetings.

The Paper - a weekly publication targeted to site employees has published several articles on the solar ponds. An article prior to the January workshop will announce the format of the workshop and invite interested stakeholders to participate.

Press Releases have been ongoing and will continue to keep the public informed of OU4 activities and opportunities for public involvement and availability of speakers to address current OU4 issues and answer public questions.

Community Advisory - Update sent via telefax to key community groups and individuals to keep them abreast of OU4 activities.

Exhibit and Supporting Materials - Exhibits will be developed that will be used in the January workshop, other public meetings and the site visitors center. The exhibits will include the following:

- stand-alone 8/10 exhibits that provide pictorial and brief explanation of the Solar Ponds past, present and future - portions of the three exhibits may be used for specific themes as needed.

- a table-top 3-D replica of the proposed cap

Presentation - A brief, general overview presentation will be developed that can be used for speakers bureau opportunities. Community relations will "market" speaking engagement opportunities to organization and local governmental entities. Presentations have been given to the full CAB board as well as the Environmental subcommittee, and the TRG. Ongoing updates will be provided throughout all phases of the project.

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Public Meetings/Comment Periods

OU4 issues have been presented and discussed at public meeting prior to the January 1995 Quarterly meeting. The public has had some information provided to them regarding OU4 issues. The Environmental Restoration staff has presented OU4 issues to the Technical Review Group, the Citizens Advisory Board and Environmental Subcommittee as well as a few of the regularly scheduled monthly meetings. Questions raised by the public have been addressed and will be used to formulate further information plans.

January 25, 1995 an OU4 workshop is planned as the major portion of the ER Quarterly meeting. The workshop is intended to serve a wide audience of participants. Basic information will be presented with more technical information available.

Comment Period Upon release of the IM/IRA Decision Document on February 10, 1994, a written and oral 60-day comment period will be announced. Several public information and involvement activities will take place, as follows: The Rocky Flats Monthly Public meeting in February will schedule time to remind the public of the IM/IRA Decision Document availability for comment, review the Users Guide, and address any current issues.

The March Rocky Flats Monthly Public meeting will have a portion set for the formal receipt of public comment. Finally, a Closeout Meeting will be held once the responsiveness summary has been completed. This meeting will update the public on the results of the public comment period.

Display Advertisements Ads will be placed in local and major newspapers announcing document release. Additionally OU4 will be listed as an agenda item in each display ad for public meetings in January, February, and March. All meeting schedules will list OU4 as discussion topic.

C. TIMELINE

ou4 activities

ACTIVITY CALENDAR			
ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE	COMPLETION DATE
Fact sheet	Bechard	25-Jan-95	
Users guide	Zepernick	25-Jan-95	
Workshop - ER Quarterly	Jemison	25-Jan-95	
---video	Roseff		
---3-d display	Forbes		
3 exhibits	Forbes		
Presentation preparation	Jemison	15-Jan-95	
Appointments for presentations	Jemison	30-Jan-95	
Press releases	Jemison	ongoing	
Media	Murray		
radio - talk show		January	
EM Update article	Zepernick	6-Jan-95	
Bulletin Board Updates	Connors	15-Jan-95	
Community Advisories	Jemison		

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	OU4 PUBLIC MEETINGS AND DISPLAY ADS
11-Jan-95	Quarterly Display Ad
25-Jan-95	ER quarterly - OU4 Workshop
	Document Release display ad
10-Feb-95	Release of document for public review
8-Feb-95	meeting display ad
22-Feb-95	Public meeting - brief presentation to announce OU4 doc. invite review and comments - announce formal comment meeting
8-Mar-95	Display Ad
22-Mar-95	Formal comment meeting
11-Apr-95	End of 60 day review
2-May-95	Responsiveness summary

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